



Statements & Letters of Support for
The American Health Care Act

From

CONSERVATIVE GROUPS



We are on the cusp of tremendous victories for the American People.

First, seven years after the enactment of pro-abortion ObamaCare, it has clearly failed in a devastating fashion. Premiums have skyrocketed, regulations have exploded, and - most importantly - options for healthcare continue to vanish at an alarming rate. We said from the beginning that the structure of ObamaCare was nothing but a scheme that would end with a single-payer system run by the federal government. That dire prediction has now proven accurate, as providers flee the market and millions of Americans are left without coverage options.

There is no real alternative to this catastrophic situation other than rolling back the taxes, mandates, and regulations of pro-abortion ObamaCare. This will require a multi-pronged approach and will not be accomplished overnight. But it must start inside the Budget Reconciliation process that is now being considered by Congress. It is critically important for all involved to participate in this process and to roll back as much of ObamaCare as possible during this initial phase. But it is incumbent on Congress to ensure that this effort succeeds. It is not acceptable for Congress to choose the status quo of ObamaCare. The time has come to acknowledge that ObamaCare has failed, and to begin its repeal. Our federal government owes this to the American people.

Next, it is time to get the American People out of the business of funding the world's largest abortion provider. Under the terms of the Budget Reconciliation bill, any abortion provider with Medicaid receipts over \$350 million would be blocked from receiving those taxpayer dollars. This would finally provide the American taxpayers with relief from underwriting the abortion business that is Planned Parenthood. It would also improve Medicaid's ability to meet the healthcare demands of those it is designed to serve.

To put it simply, this would be the most significant victory for the sanctity of life in a generation. We've been fighting for this for more than three decades. We must seize this opportunity.

The Budget Reconciliation process is not perfect. It will not be the end of the effort, and we stand ready to continue the hard work of undoing the damage that has been done by ObamaCare by rolling back price-raising regulations and implementing more market reforms through subsequent legislation that would continue to bring down prices and improve the quality of healthcare for more Americans. But that process begins now. The U.S. House and the U.S. Senate must finish their work on this Reconciliation package and send it to the President for his signature. We must not miss this window of opportunity to use reconciliation - the same mechanism used to pass ObamaCare - to begin the repeal process and defund Big Abortion.

Failure is not an option.



The American Health Care Act is a Much Needed First Step in Returning Power to States

Arlington, VA (March 7, 2017) – Last night, Congress introduced a bill to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act (ACA). The new legislation, titled the American Health Care Act proposes a number of actions that would preserve popular elements of the ACA while returning power to the states. Reducing the regulatory burden on states will give them the opportunity to modernize our health care system and provide better care to all Americans.

The American Health Care Act repeals the taxes, mandates and subsidies inflicted by Obamacare while preserving certain protections many Americans enjoy, including protecting those with preexisting conditions and allowing those under the age of 26 to remain on their parents' plan.

"The American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) leads the way in policies that respect and preserve limited governments, free markets and federalism," said Lisa Nelson, CEO of ALEC. "The states have been leading the way in health care reform for years, and I am glad to finally see Congress taking notes and overturning a policy that has left so many Americans drowning in debt and without the access to care they need. As more discussions take place, I look forward to seeing more ALEC legislators included in the conversation."

"Yesterday's release of the House Republican Obamacare replacement package is a long awaited moment in Congress delivering on its promise to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act," said Mia Heck, Director of the ALEC Health and Human Services Task Force. "The failed law's government-mandated approach to healthcare has significantly increased the cost of care, and as a result, has left nearly 1/3 of all U.S. counties with only one option for health insurance in the individual market. This is unacceptable."

"After more than six years of Obamacare, 28 million people remain uninsured and premiums have gone up year after year," said Wisconsin Senator Leah Vukmir. "The American Health Care Act ensures a stable transition away from the Affordable Care Act, and it is imperative Congress works to loosen federal requirements on states so they may have greater authority over how they deliver healthcare – only then can there be true reforms."

To interview an ALEC policy expert or state legislator on repeal and replace legislation, email Taylor McCarty at tmccarty@alec.org.

###

The American Legislative Exchange Council is the largest nonprofit association of state legislators dedicated to the principles of limited government, free markets and federalism. Nearly one quarter of all state legislators are members of ALEC and represent more than 60 million Americans. ALEC member companies, which range from small businesses to Fortune 500 companies, create roughly 30 million American jobs. To learn more, visit www.alec.org.



March 7, 2017

The Honorable Greg Walden
Chairman
Committee on Energy & Commerce
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin Brady
Chairman
Committee on Ways & Means
1102 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Walden and Chairman Brady,

On behalf of the 1.3 million members of AMAC, the Association of Mature American Citizens, I am writing in support of the *American Health Care Act*, or the reconciliation recommendations to repeal and replace the *Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act* (Obamacare). The provisions embodied in this Act are a vital, first step in the legislative process to completely repeal and replace Obamacare.

Millions of seniors were promised time and again by the Obama Administration that they could keep their health plans and they could keep their doctors. The last six years have proved those promises false, and millions of seniors have been forced off their health plans and out of their doctors' offices. For years, AMAC has repeatedly called on Congress to repeal the Obama Administration's failed health care law, and to put the power of health care choices back into the hands of patients. As a starting point, this bill lays the necessary foundation for more robust and necessary changes to repeal Obamacare in its entirety.

AMAC stands behind several provisions within this bill—all of which cannot be enumerated in this short letter. First, this bill expands the capabilities and use of Health Savings Accounts (HSA) to meet the needs of a modernizing society and the needs of individuals and families. Second, the recommendations repeal both the individual and employer mandates which have unnecessarily cost Americans millions of dollars and stymied small businesses. Lastly, this bill does not "pull the rug out" from those currently on the Obamacare exchanges through its built-in protections for current beneficiaries. Given the constraints of the Reconciliation process, this bill seeks to offer versatility in health care funding mechanisms, relieve Americans from unnecessary taxation, and keep as many Americans insured as possible.

While changes will inevitably happen as markups and amendments are made, we strongly urge Republican law makers to keep their promise to fully repeal and replace Obamacare. We applaud House Leadership, Chairman Walden, Chairman Brady, and their respective staffs for keeping the American public as informed as possible about something so deeply personal to all of us. As an organization committed to representing the interests of mature Americans and seniors, AMAC is dedicated to ensuring senior citizens' interests are protected. While this bill is far from perfect, AMAC is heartened by Congress's

effort to improve access to health care, improve innovation, and give America's seniors peace of mind that their health care will be protected. For the foregoing reasons, AMAC is pleased to offer our support.

Sincerely,

Dan Weber
President and Founder of AMAC



**CATHOLIC
MEDICAL
ASSOCIATION**

phone	484-270-8002
fax	866-666-2319
email	info@cathmed.org
web	www.cathmed.org

PRESS RELEASE

AUTHORIZED FOR IMMEDIATE DISTRIBUTION

Catholic Medical Association Congratulates the House on the Release of the American Health Care Act

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Philadelphia, PA—Mar. 8, 2017—The Catholic Medical Association (CMA) congratulates Chairman Greg Walden (R-Ore.); Chairman Kevin Brady (R-TX); their House Republican colleagues; and HHS Secretary Tom Price, on the release by the House Republicans of the [American Health Care Act](#) on March 6.

The Act proposes to improve patient-physician relationships and health care for Americans. It will dismantle Obamacare's damaging taxes and mandates, and aims to deliver quality, affordable options based on what patients and families truly need. Under Obamacare, premiums increased dramatically; contraceptive mandates led to significant lawsuits; and nearly 1/3 of all U.S. counties now have only one insurer offering plans on their state's exchange.

The new legislation removes individual and employer mandate penalties, which forced millions of people into expensive, inadequate plans. It expands Health Savings Accounts (HSAs), nearly doubling the amount of money people can contribute, and broadening how people can use them. It provides a monthly tax credit—between \$2,000 and \$14,000 a year—for low- and middle-income individuals and families who don't receive insurance through work or a government program. It protects patients by prohibiting health insurers from denying coverage based on pre-existing conditions. It is expected the new plan will decrease premiums and enhance health care options for Americans, by allowing more innovation and competition in the health care market.

For Medicaid, there will be a stable transition period where the previous expansion will continue until 2020. It will then move to a "per capita allotment" so states can best serve patients most in need. Also, anyone then without work/government program-obtained insurance can obtain advanceable, refundable tax credits to access coverage. The CMA would support a final bill that provides and does not deny coverage for indigent patients.

The new Act does not fund abortion, staying consistent with the bipartisan Hyde Amendment. Obamacare subsidized abortion; this bill provides monthly healthcare tax credits, with provisions that prevent these credits from being used to fund abortion. However, there are pro-life concerns that the Senate may use strict budget rules to strip out such provisions banning funding for abortion. The CMA urges all members of Congress to ensure the protection of unborn babies in the final bill and that it not be turned into a political bargaining chip in any way.

There is much work remaining for Congress and the administration, including markups of the bill, compiling a final product, and voting. The CMA applauds the release of the *American Health Care Act*, and hopes that the final bill will defend the lives of the unborn, protect conscience rights, preserve the patient-doctor relationship, and give Americans a health care proposal that builds a culture of life and recognizes God's design for marriage and the family.

The CMA is the nation's largest professional organization of Catholic physicians. For more information about the CMA, please visit www.cathmed.org or email info@cathmed.org.

Contact:

[Catholic Medical Association](http://www.cathmed.org)

Tara Plymouth, MTS, BSN, RN, Director of Membership Services and Public Policy

plymouth@cathmed.org; 484-270-8002

29 Bala Ave # 205, Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004

Share on Facebook and Twitter:

###

ONE NATION HEALTH

For You, For ALL

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 7, 2017

Contact: John Hart
press@onenationhealth.org

One Nation Health Coalition Congratulates the House on a Critical Milestone

(WASHINGTON, D.C.) – Dave Hoppe and David Wilson with the One Nation Health Coalition released the following statement today in support of the *American Health Care Act*:

“We congratulate Chairman Brady, Chairman Walden and their colleagues for reaching this important milestone. The *American Health Care Act* builds on more than two decades of work to improve health care for all Americans. It reflects the best ideas about how to lower costs and improve access within a patient-centered system. By focusing on you – the individual – Congress can improve care for all.

“President Trump is right that action is a necessity, not a choice. Obamacare is collapsing. Across America costs are skyrocketing while access and choices are disappearing. The House has seized this important opportunity to get health care reform right.

“This proposal begins the process of developing legislation to create a new patient-centered free market system to help Americans get better access, benefits, and choices at costs people can afford. Difficult work remains for

Congress and the administration. In fact, this bill reflects a principled compromise among new ideas that have already been offered. That's precisely what our founders envisioned. Setting politics aside and working together to do what is best for the American people – expanding access, benefits, choices, health savings, responsibility and rewards, for all, centered in the doctor-patient relationship – should be our common goal. The *American Health Care Act* is an important step that puts patients and families first.”

###

About One Nation Health Coalition:

The One Nation Health Coalition is a non-profit coalition and foundation dedicated to promoting a highly effective health care policy that actively invests in the improved health and health care of every American; delivering the four principals of success: access, benefits, choices, health savings, responsibility and rewards, For You, and For ALL.

As Kim Strassel recently wrote in the [Wall Street Journal](#), the One Nation Health Coalition is:

“[A] fast-growing collection of elected officials, staffers, grass-roots groups, think tanks, trade associations, donors and corporations” committed to supporting the effort to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act.

The One Nation Health Coalition [believes](#) “health care is a policy challenge that must unite us rather than divide us ... By putting people, not politics, at the center of health care we will get reform right. Repealing and replacing the current law isn't enough. Both parties should aspire to build the best health care system the world has ever known for you, and for all. As a people, we must

demand nothing less, not just for ourselves, but also for the country and our children.”



NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 14, 2017

CONTACT: Karen Kerrigan
kkerrigan@sbecouncil.org
703-242-5840

Advocate Urges Congress to Help Small Business by Supporting “Repeal and Replace” Bill

Washington, D.C. – Small Business & Entrepreneurship Council (SBE Council) President & CEO [Karen Kerrigan](#) issued the following statement in support of the American Health Care Act, reform legislation to repeal and replace Obamacare:

“Obamacare has failed small businesses. From the useless small business tax credit, to the failed promise of affordable choices and access to care. Limited choices, crushing costs and lack of access are accelerating. Obamacare’s tax increases and mandates have imposed burdens and costs on small firms and the self-employed. Repealing and replacing Obamacare can’t come quick enough for our nation’s small businesses and their workforce.

“A failure of Obamacare’s magnitude requires a controlled demolition of its failed elements. The American Health Care Act is a smart approach that will bring us to a functional system where a competitive market can eventually flourish. The first phase of eliminating the massive taxes and employer and individual mandates will provide critical relief to our struggling small business and entrepreneurial sector. Improving health saving accounts will build upon their use and practicality, and bring price sensitivity to the health care market. Competition and innovation will eventually bring down costs and encourage innovative choices. Small business owners and entrepreneurs understand the political realities and reasoning behind the staggering of reform bills that will bring us to a more functional and competitive healthcare marketplace. We strongly support the American Health Care Act and encourage all members of Congress to help push this critical effort forward.”

SBE Council is a nonpartisan, nonprofit advocacy, research and education organization that works to protect small business and promote entrepreneurship. For nearly 25 years, SBE Council has worked to advance initiatives and policies that strengthen the ecosystem for startups and small business growth. To learn more, visit SBE Council’s website: www.sbecouncil.org. Follow on Twitter: @SBECouncil.

###

